



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/789,267	02/26/2004	Kurt Businger	12406/76	9395
545	7590	05/08/2009	EXAMINER	
IP Patent Docketing			CHEUNG, VICTOR	
K&L GATES LLP				
599 Lexington Avenue			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
33rd Floor			3714	
New York, NY 10022-6030				
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/08/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/789,267	BUSINGER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	VICTOR CHEUNG	3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2008.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-17 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-17 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's response has been received 08/22/2008.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-17 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Whitaker et al. (US Patent No. 5,493,084).

Re Claim 1: Whitaker et al. disclose a door handle assembly comprising a support plate having a front side and a back side (Fig. 1, Ref. No. 8), wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 8), a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate (Fig. 1, Ref. No. 10), wherein a cam shaft configured to be arranged in the aperture depends from the handle (Fig. 2, Ref. No. 33), a cam follower disposed on the back side of the support plate, directly coupled to the cam shaft (Fig. 2, Ref. No. 50, 67), and a latch operably connected to the handle via the cam shaft and cam follower, configured so that force applied to the handle may be transferred directly via the cam shaft and cam follower to lift the latch (Fig. 2, Ref. No. 52, 54, 60, 62, 64, 66).

Re Claim 3: Whitaker et al. disclose a retaining device configured to retain the handle in one of an open position and a closed position (Fig. 3, Ref. No. 88; Col. 6, Lines 40-58).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whitaker et al. (US Patent No. 5,493,084) in view of Smolarski (US Patent No. 6,062,616).

Re Claim 4: Whitaker et al. disclose a door handle assembly comprising a support plate having a front side and a back side (Fig. 1, Ref. No. 8), wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 8), a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate (Fig. 1, Ref. No. 10), and a latch connected to the handle so that force applied to the handle may be transferred directly to lift the latch (Fig. 2, Ref. No. 52, 54, 60, 62, 64, 66).

However, Whitaker et al. do not specifically disclose a roller bearing arrangement depending from the handle, configured to transfer force directly from the handle to a latch in order to lift the latch.

Smolarski teaches a roller bearing assembly depending from the handle (Figs. 1-3) configured to transfer force from the handle to a latch in order to move the latch (Col. 2, Lines 1-7).

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a roller bearing arrangement in the door handle, thus achieving the predictable result of providing the roller bearings commonly used for their durability, fluidity, and reduced friction in movements.

6. Claims 5, 7-9 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood (US Patent No. 4,813,675) in view of Whitaker et al. (US Patent No. 5,493,084).

Re Claims 5 and 14: Greenwood discloses a gaming terminal comprising a housing (Fig. 1) and a door movably attached to the housing (Figs. 1-2, Reference No. 34B).

However, Greenwood does not specifically disclose that the door is secured by a latch disposed in the housing, and a door handle assembly attached to one of the door and the housing, the door handle assembly including a support plate having a front side and a back side, wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate, a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate, wherein a cam shaft configured to be arranged in the aperture depends from the handle, and a cam follower disposed on the back side of the support plate, directly coupled to the cam shaft; and wherein the latch is operably connected to the handle via the cam shaft and cam follower and configured so that force applied to the handle may be transferred directly via the cam shaft and cam follower to lift the latch.

Whitaker et al. disclose a door secured by a latch and a door handle assembly attached to one of the door and the housing (Fig. 1), the door handle assembly including a support plate having a front side and a back side, wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No.

134), a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 124), wherein a cam shaft configured to be arranged in the aperture depends from the handle (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 130), and a cam follower disposed on the back side of the support plate, directly coupled to the cam shaft (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 128, 133, 132); and wherein a the latch is operably connected to the handle via the cam shaft and cam follower and configured so that force applied to the handle may be transferred directly via the cam shaft and cam follower to lift the latch (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 156). See Col. 8, Line 46-Col. 9, Line 57 for further information regarding these elements and the opening, closing, and securing of the door.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to attach the above door handle assembly to the gaming terminal, allowing for controlled easy access in operating the door.

Re Claims 7 and 15: Whitaker et al. disclose a retaining device configured to retain the handle in one of an open position and a closed position (Fig. 3, Ref. No. 88; Col. 6, Lines 40-58).

Re Claims 8 and 16: Greenwood discloses that electronic components are disposed in the housing, the electronic components accessible by opening the door (Fig. 1, Reference No. 56).

Re Claims 9 and 17: Greenwood also discloses that the gaming terminal comprises a monitor and a money receptor (Money Receptor Fig. 1, Reference No. 26; Monitor Fig 6, Reference No. 24).

7. Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood (US Patent No. 4,813,675) in view of Whitaker et al. (US Patent No. 5,493,084) and Smolarski (US Patent No. 6,062,616).

Re Claim 10: Greenwood discloses a gaming terminal comprising a housing (Fig. 1) and a door movably attached to the housing (Figs. 1-2, Reference No. 34B).

However, Greenwood does not specifically disclose a door handle assembly attached to one of the door and the housing, the door handle assembly including a support plate having a front side and a back side, wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate, a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate, and a roller bearing arrangement depending from the handle, configured to transfer force directly from the handle to a door latch in the gaming terminal, to lift the door latch.

Whitaker et al. disclose a door handle assembly attached to one of the door and the housing (Fig. 1), the door handle assembly including a support plate having a front side and a back side, wherein an aperture is disposed in the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 134), a handle pivotably arranged on the front side of the support plate (Fig. 5, Ref. No. 124), and a door latch connected to the door handle so that force applied to the handle may be transferred directly to lift the latch (Fig. 2, Ref. No. 52, 54, 60, 62, 64, 66).

Smolarski teaches a roller bearing assembly depending from the handle (Figs. 1-3) configured to transfer force from the handle to a latch in order to move the latch (Col. 2, Lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to attach the above door handle assembly to the gaming terminal, allowing for controlled easy access in operating the door. It would further have been obvious to use a roller bearing

arrangement in the door handle, thus achieving the predictable result of providing the roller bearings commonly used for their durability, fluidity, and reduced friction in movements.

Re Claim 11: Whitaker et al. disclose a retaining device configured to retain the handle in one of an open position and a closed position (Fig. 3, Ref. No. 88; Col. 6, Lines 40-58).

Re Claim 12: Greenwood discloses that electronic components are disposed in the housing, the electronic components accessible by opening the door (Fig. 1, Reference No. 56).

Re Claim 13: Greenwood also discloses that the gaming terminal comprises a monitor and a money receptor (Money Receptor Fig. 1, Reference No. 26; Monitor Fig 6, Reference No. 24).

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VICTOR CHEUNG whose telephone number is (571)270-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dmitry Suhol/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
3714

/V. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 3714